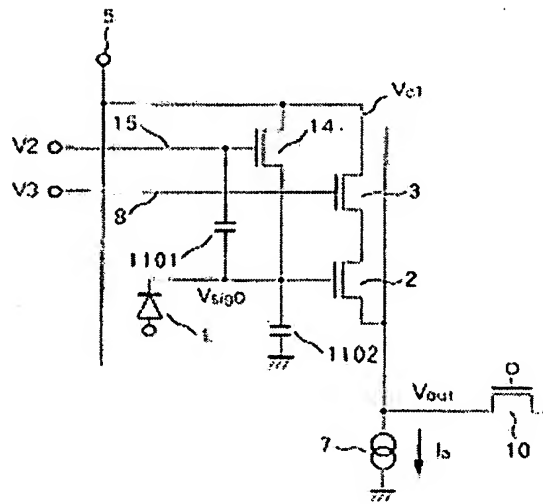


Koichi et al. FIG. 14



Since Zhao et al. and Koichi et al. do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 35 and 42, claims 35 and 42 are not obvious over the cited references. Claims 36-37, 40, 43, and 45 depend, respectively, from claims 35 and 42, and are patentable at least for the reasons mentioned above, and on their own merits. Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 35-37, 40, 42-43, and 45 be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Claims 41 and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. in view of Koichi et al., and further in view of Dasgupta (US 6,146,939). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 41 and 44 depend from claim 42 and are patentable at least for the reasons mentioned above. Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 41 and 44 be withdrawn.

Claims 46-48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. in view of Koichi et al., and further in view of Wada et al. (US 6,677,676). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 46-48 depend from claim 42 and are patentable at least for the reasons mentioned above. Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 46-48 be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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